

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF MIGUEL PEREZ

**HON. JOHN JOYCE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2021*

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Miguel Perez upon his appointment to serve as manager of the Altoona Curve for 2021's minor league season, which will be Mr. Perez's 14th season in the Pittsburgh Pirates' system.

Mr. Perez will be the first former Altoona Curve player to serve as the team's manager. Prior to his appointment as manager of the Altoona Curve, he served as a manager for the West Virginia Power, the Greensboro Grasshoppers, and the Bristol Pirates.

Mr. Perez began his career as a baseball player in 2000 with the Cincinnati Reds, and made his major league debut with the Reds in 2005. He played for the Altoona Curve in 2008, 2009, 2012, and 2013. During his tenure with the Altoona Curve, he appeared in 92 games and hit .271 with 36 RBIs.

It is my honor to congratulate Mr. Perez on his appointment as manager of the Altoona Curve and welcome him back to Altoona. As the 2021 season begins, I wish Mr. Perez and the Altoona Curve team a safe, healthy, and successful season ahead.

**EQUALITY ACT**

**HON. SUSAN WILD**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2021*

Ms. WILD. Madam Speaker, if the Equality Act is signed into law, millions of our fellow Americans will, for the first time, no longer be subject to discrimination based on their sexual orientation or gender identity. Barriers across our society—in essential areas like housing, employment, credit, and education—will finally come down.

In reflecting on this legislation, I can't help thinking about my uncle Wes, who grew up during the Depression. As a young man, he was never able to come out to his family because he didn't think they'd accept him for it. Later in life, he did come out—living as a proud, gay man in Alabama. He passed away last year, and when I cast my vote for this legislation, I'll be thinking of him.

I'll also be thinking of the many messages I've gotten since I was first sworn in from young LGBTQ people in my community. They've shared their stories with me, and I've been inspired by their courage. I want them to know that this country belongs every bit as much to them—and that they have the right to a life of dignity and respect. That is what's at stake in this vote.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF BISHOP CHARLES E. DAVIS

**HON. BOBBY L. RUSH**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2021*

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate and celebrate the life of an extraordinary and influential figure from Chicago's South Side, Bishop Charles Edward Davis. A native of Leland, Mississippi, Bishop Davis's life was guided by service to his country, his community, and his faith. After graduating high school in 1940, Bishop Davis relocated to Chicago's Bronzeville neighborhood, at the beginning of the Second Great Migration and the year before the United States entered World War II. Heeding the call to serve his country after the outbreak of war, Bishop Davis joined the U.S. Army at the age of 19, serving as a sergeant. In the Army, Bishop Davis would complete tours of duty in Germany, France, and Holland.

After the war, Bishop Davis would enter the upholstery business with his dear friend Brother James McDonald, a step which would lead him towards his lifetime of faith and good works. Brother McDonald's mother-in-law, Sister Anastasia Anderson, introduced him to the Indiana Avenue Pentecostal Church of God (IPC), and he became a member of the church in 1954 when it was under the pastorate of Elder Charles Ellis.

Recognizing the deep faith, commitment, and talent of Bishop Davis, Elder Ellis's successor, Elder Odee Akines, encouraged the further development of his faith and leadership. With Elder Akines at the helm of IPC, Bishop Davis served as the church's Sunday School superintendent, Young People's Leader, and President of the senior choir. By his side throughout his energetic leadership of the church was Dr. Geraldine Olivia Davis, his dear wife of 43 years until her passing in 1998. Bishop Davis was also a devoted father to a son, Larney Bush, Jr., and a daughter, Yolanda Davis.

After Elder Akines passed away in 1970, Bishop Davis was elected pastor of IPC. Himself a Doctor of Divinity and Master of Theology, Bishop Davis made this a central focus during his leadership of IPC, establishing scholarships and programs for young people seeking to further their educations in both the secular and Christian traditions. In 1986, Bishop Davis was elevated to the Bishopric by the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World, serving as a Diocesan Bishop in New York State, Washington State, and Wyoming, eventually accepting a role as Diocesan of the 6th Episcopal District of the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World, their Illinois District Council, in 2008.

Bishop Davis would come to be widely recognized as one of the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World's most exemplary leaders, admired both in Chicago and nationally for his

character and conviction. This caused him to become fondly known as "Chief." Bishop Davis was a mentor to many young people who came to his churches seeking salvation, and always conducted robust community outreach efforts, making sure that his good works did not only benefit IPC, but the entire neighborhood and city. Bishop Davis's work was recognized by the City of Chicago in 1992, when the 3500–3600 block of South Indiana Avenue was named in his honor.

In 2004, Bishop Davis became united in marriage with Dr. Jessie Davis, and they were inseparable from one another, always working together for the spiritual benefit of their community. They would remain by each other's sides until Dr. Davis's death in April of 2020.

Madam Speaker, on February 9th, Bishop Davis was called to heaven after a lifetime of good works. My deepest prayers and sympathies go out to Bishop Davis's family, friends, and the IPC community on the passing of this supremely devoted and talented leader, who gave so much in service to his faith, community, and country.

IN RECOGNITION OF RAFAEL A. MELGAR

**HON. JOHN JOYCE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2021*

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Master Sergeant Rafael A. Melgar of Altoona, Pennsylvania on his retirement after 20 years of service in the United States Air Force.

Sergeant Melgar enlisted in the Air Force in 2000. His service has included six years of active duty with the 74th Fighter Squadron, the 23rd Fighter Wing, at Pope Air Force Base, North Carolina as an A-10, F-15, and U-2 Avionics Systems Journeyman. He also has served with the 152nd Medical Squadron at the Reno-Tahoe International Airport as a Biomedical Equipment Repair Technician. Currently, he is a Biomedical Equipment Support Specialist at the James E. Van Zandt VA Medical Center in Altoona, Pennsylvania.

Sergeant Melgar deployed in support of Operation: Southern Watch, Operation: Enduring Freedom, and Operation: Iraqi Freedom. During his service, he earned the Air Force Achievement Medal with an Oak Leaf Cluster.

Sergeant Melgar is an outstanding American and Pennsylvanian. It is my honor to recognize his distinguished service to our nation and to our community. On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I congratulate Sergeant Melgar on his retirement and wish him the best as he and his family embark on a new chapter.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

HONORING DR. HEIDI SHRECK

**HON. CYNTHIA AXNE**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2021*

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Heidi Shreck, a pediatrician who serves as Chief Medical Officer for Primary Health Care, a community health center local in central Iowa. Dr. Shreck is a dedicated, trusted physician who works each day to support the health of our communities, and it is my distinct honor to name her Iowan of the Week.

Dr. Shreck leads with care and compassion, and she is committed to achieving excellence. If you were to ask any of her patients—or the parents of some of her littler patients—they would without doubt echo that her kindness, devotion, and concern for their health and wellbeing is at the core of everything she does.

PHC offers high-quality, affordable care to underserved and vulnerable populations in Des Moines, Ames, and Marshalltown. As Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Shreck helps ensure these patients receive comprehensive health services, including medical and dental care, behavioral health care, homeless support, and pharmacy services. In 2019, PHC provided care for more than 38,000 Iowans.

Dr. Shreck has been instrumental in advancing the care-driven mission of community health centers in Iowa. When we began to see cases of COVID-19 in our state, Dr. Shreck led PHC's early response efforts and coordinated with other healthcare organizations to establish a community-wide strategy. She has continued to lead our medical, dental, and behavioral health staff through the challenging circumstances of the past nine months.

PHC's staff—including Dr. Shreck—has gone above and beyond to make sure patients and clients received continuing health care from the onset of this pandemic. Their accomplishments are truly too many to list, so I'd like to highlight a few.

With Dr. Shreck's leadership, PHC medical staff rapidly adapted to providing care in new ways. For example, behavioral health providers worked alongside primary care teams to set up telehealth systems to meet increasing demand for mental health care among kids and adults during this pandemic. In the early days of the pandemic when most dental offices had to shutter, dedicated dental teams juggled work adjustments, staffing challenges, and new requirements for PPE in order to provide emergency care—which kept patients healthy while ensuring emergency room space remained available to treat those with COVID-19.

I cannot thank Dr. Shreck enough for her hard work and resolve in the face of this threat to the health of communities across Iowa. Despite the long hours, stress, and concern for their own families, friends, and neighbors, Dr. Shreck and her team keep showing up to provide exceptional care. They do so with compassion, dignity, and respect; their resolve is deeply humbling.

It is Iowans like Dr. Shreck who embody Iowans' commitment to community and service. I thank her once again for her achievements, and it is my distinct honor to name her this week's Iowan of the Week.

RECOGNIZING PHIL MATIER

**HON. ERIC SWALWELL**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2021*

Mr. SWALWELL. Madam Speaker, along with Speaker of the House NANCY PELOSI and Representatives MARK DESAULNIER, ANNA G. ESHOO, JARED HUFFMAN, RO KHANNA, BARBARA LEE, ZOE LOFGREN, JERRY MCNERNEY, JACKIE SPEIER, and MIKE THOMPSON, I rise to recognize California journalist Phil Matier on the occasion of his retirement from the San Francisco Chronicle.

Phil for decades has enlightened and entertained Bay Area readers with his well-sourced, trenchant columns. He has helped to clearly explain our region's ups and downs to generations of residents, often shining light on details that politicians and the well-connected would have preferred to keep hidden.

Phil, a graduate of the University of Arizona, worked at the Tucson (AZ) Citizen before joining the San Francisco Examiner in the 1980s to report on city hall, where he met and soon partnered with Andy Ross. A Matier & Ross column became a fixture first at the Examiner and then at the Chronicle, even as Phil also expanded his media footprint into work with Bay Area television and radio stations.

Through his columns as well as his broadcast presence, Phil has explained the fine details of pressing issues, probed policymakers' personalities and character, and pushed for accountability and transparency in government.

His uncanny ability to elicit information from political figures, whether or not they wish to share it, is legendary. And his own personality—insightful, sometimes pugnacious, often expressed at high volume, but always fair—has shone through all of his work.

We thank Phil for sharing his talents with generations of newspaper readers, and we are glad we will continue to see and hear his broadcasts.

**APPRECIATING RUSH LIMBAUGH****HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2021*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, America has lost a treasured icon of Truth with the death of Rush Limbaugh. My wife Roxanne and our family and community extend our most sincere sympathy to his wife Kathryn and the Limbaugh Family. He was America's Number One broadcaster with tens of millions of listeners in every community in America.

Rush Limbaugh was the Ronald Reagan of broadcasting proving conservatism is positive, friendly, faith-based, and even funny as he itemized the Greatness of America never apologizing for Exceptionalism.

Also, like President Reagan he achieved and promoted the American Dream that all can succeed with hard work. It was Reaganesque that he created thousands of jobs saving the AM Radio band enabling local hosts to penetrate daily newspapers' mostly fake news. Local hosts are highlighted by tal-

ented truth tellers—Keven Cohen, Gary David, Carl Gooding, Paul Kirby, Kelly Nash, Jonathan Rush, and Christopher Thompson. This is also a platform for affordable advertising by local businesses to create jobs.

His logical, common sense explanation of American political issues was vital for conservative success.

In 1994 he worked with speaker-to-be Newt Gingrich to achieve the first Republican House majority in my lifetime—leading to a Congressional vote to establish the American Embassy in Jerusalem.

In 2010 he encouraged the grassroots to become active with the spontaneous Tea Party movement gaining an incredible 63 House seats.

In 2016 he recognized outsider Donald Trump to unexpectedly be elected President to successfully create jobs with record employment for African Americans, Hispanics, Asian Americans, women, and youth.

In 2020 in my home state of South Carolina he inspired young conservatives for additional State Senate, State House, and a Congressional seat achieving the largest Republican majorities in 140 years. This follows Nikki Haley being elected the first female governor in 340 years and second Indian American in history with Senator TIM SCOTT being the South's first African American U.S. Senator.

Columbia's Morning News host Gary David is correct that there has been no one who has impacted our political culture more than Rush Limbaugh without serving in public office.

I saw firsthand the good-natured friendliness of Rush Limbaugh in 1990 when I served as his driver during his visit to Columbia for an address to the South Carolina Policy Council. He was not offended being crammed into our van with our four sons age 3 to 17 (helping inspire our son Alan to be elected America's youngest state Attorney General in 2010).

Last February 5th I was grateful to congratulate him at the Capitol following his being presented the Medal of Freedom by President Donald Trump during his historic State of the Union address. The opinion show host was clearly humbled by this deserved recognition.

It is so re-assuring that the Rush Limbaugh legacy will continue as excerpts from his broadcasts will remain on the air reinforcing how profound his love of America that are timeless.

**IN RECOGNITION OF THE NEW OXFORD MARCHING COLONIALS****HON. JOHN JOYCE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2021*

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the New Oxford High School Marching Colonialists on their victory in the V-USBands Pennsylvania State Championship.

The New Oxford High School Marching Colonialists include 52 students in grades 9–12. A competitive band for many years, the band persevered through the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and competed in the virtual V-USBands circuit. From their home stadium in New Oxford, the band designed a new, original field show called "Together," which is intended to convey a message of unity.